

(3) means mounted to said vehicle for indicating a direction of movement by said vehicle;

a first processor means on-board said vehicle for acquiring data generated from means (1), (2) and (3) and processing [organizing] said [acquiring] data for downloading to a remote control center; and

(4) means for sending said [acquired] processed data to said remote control center and for receiving control signals therefrom.

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1 104. (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 103 wherein said means (1) comprises a bi-state switch positioned in a recess of a bed of said dump body so as to detect [the] a presence of material carried in said dump body.

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1 105. (Twice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 103 wherein said means (1) comprises a pressure sensor assembly mounted to a frame of said vehicle for transferring from said dump body to said frame at least a predetermined portion of [said], a total weight of said dump body in a substantially uniform manner along an interface between said frame and said dump body and said assembly is responsive to said predetermined portion of said total weight to provide pressure [date] data representative of said total weight of said dump body.

2. (Fourth Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 103 wherein said first processor means includes (1) memory means for storing data indicative of a predetermined maximum weight capacity for said dump body, (2) detection means responsive to incremental increases in [the] a total weight of said dump body for determining an approximate weight of material added by a bucket of a loader, (3) comparison means responsive

to said memory, first processor and detection means for determining if [a] said total weight minus said predetermined maximum weight for said dump body is a fraction of said approximate weight of material in said bucket, and (4) display means responsive to said comparison means for [displaying] indicating a remaining weight capacity of said truck body.

3. (Twice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 2 wherein said detection means includes:

[first] means for detecting a monotonic increase in the total weight of said dump body; and

[second] means for storing said increase.

4. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 2 wherein said first processor means includes means for isolating pressure data representing pressure spikes and means for recording the occurrence of a pressure spike, and means responsive to said recording means for delivering data to said display means indicative of a condition of a road over which said vehicle travels.

4. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 2 wherein said display means includes a display of said remaining weight capacity of said dump body as a [percentage] fraction of said approximate weight of material [carried by] in said bucket.

4. (Twice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 2 wherein said display means comprises a series of light indicators representative of an approximate capacity of said bucket, said series of light indicators being relatively

positioned such that each [of said] light indicator[s] visually represents a fractional portion of said approximate [capacity] weight of material in said bucket.

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6 7. (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim [2] ~~105~~ wherein said pressure sensor assembly [is also] includes a cushioning interface between said dump body and said frame.

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6 8. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim [2] ~~105~~ wherein said dump body is pivotally mounted to said frame by way of a hinge assembly such that said pressure sensor assembly supports [the entire] said total weight of said dump body in a lowered position on said frame along [the] an interface between said frame and dump body with none of said total weight of said dump body transferred to said frame via said hinge assembly.

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a 9. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 8 wherein said hinge assembly has body and frame portions and also has means for decoupling said body and frame portions when said dump body is moved to said lowered position such that [the entire] said total weight of said dump body is communicated to said frame through said pressure sensor assembly.

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6 10. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim ~~105~~ wherein said pressure sensor assembly comprises at least one length of resilient tubing positioned on a beam of said frame wherein said resilient tubing provides an interface between said dump body and said frame for communicating said at least predetermined portion of said total weight of said dump body to said frame.

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11. (Fourth Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
[103] ~~105~~ including:

first transceiver means mounted to said vehicle;
said first processor means [mounted to said vehicle
and] operatively coupled to said first transceiver means and
said pressure sensor assembly for receiving said data from said
pressure sensor assembly, processing said data and transmitting
said processed data [signals indicative of a hauling status for
said vehicle] by way of said first transceiver where said
processed data includes an indication of a hauling status for
said vehicle; and

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said remote control center including a second pro-
cessor means having a second transceiver means for communi-
cating with said first transceiver means, said second processor
means receiving said processed data [signals] from said first
processor means, said processed data [signals] identifying said
vehicle and [a] said hauling status of said vehicle derived
from data from means (1), (2) and (3).

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12. (Fourth Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
11 wherein said vehicle may be loaded by any one of a plurality
of loaders;

13. said second processor means includes 1) first means
for calculating in response to said processed data [signals] an
average load time for each of said plurality of loaders, 2)
second means responsive to said processed data and said first
means for calculating a current load delay time for each of
said plurality of said loaders, 3) third means responsive to
said second means for identifying a one of said plurality of
said loaders having a minimum load delay 4), fourth means
responsive to said third means for forming data for trans-
mission by said second transceiver means, said data for trans-

mission identifying a particular one of said plurality of vehicles and said one of said plurality of loaders with said minimum load delay; and

 said first processor means including fifth means responsive to said data received from said fourth means [by] via said first transceiver for displaying to [an] said vehicle operator of said particular one of said plurality of vehicles an identifier of said one of loaders.

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12 ^{13.} (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 11 wherein said pressure sensor assembly includes tubings which forms [the] said interface between each of said body and frame of said vehicle.

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12 ^{14.} (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 11 wherein said second processor means includes memory means for archiving said processed data from said vehicle.

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12 ^{15.} (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 11 wherein said first processor means generates said processed data [signals] for transmission in response to said pressure data from said pressure sensor assembly and data generated by means (2) and (3) which are indicative of whether said vehicle is dumping its load, beginning loading of a new load or in transit between load and dump sites.

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16 ^{15.} (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 15 wherein said means (2) is a dump sensor and means (3) is a gear sensor and said first processor means generates said processed data [signals] for transmission in response to data from a plurality of sensors on-board said vehicle including said gear [sensors,] and dump sensors [and distance sensors].

17. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
11 wherein said second processor means includes memory means
for archiving said processed data [signals] in response to
vehicle identification and vehicle type data included in said
processed data, thereby forming a data base [signals].

18. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
11 wherein [the] said data base formed by [the] said processed
data archived in said memory means is used by said second
processor means to generate said control data for controlling
the movement of said vehicle [by transmitting said control data
for reception by said first transceiver].

19. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
105 wherein said first processor means includes:

[means for periodically sampling the pressure data
from said pressure sensor assembly;]

means for storing said pressure data acquired from
said pressure sensor assembly;

means for [periodically] comparing [a] selected
pressure [one of said] data in said storing means [samples]
with other [stored samples] pressure data in said storing means
to determine if said [one of said] selected pressure data
[samples is] are [a] pressure spike;

means responsive to said comparing means for
counting the pressure spikes; and

means responsive to said counting means for pro-
viding [for deriving from the total count of pressure spikes]
an indication of the condition[al] of a road over which said
vehicle travels [and displaying said indication on display
means].

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20. (Fourth Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
105 including:

said first processor means providing an indication of a load or dump condition of said vehicle in response to said pressure data from said pressure sensor assembly;

distance means for measuring the distance traveled by said vehicle and providing said distance to said first processor means so as to be incorporated into said processed data [between load and dump indications from said first processor means];

storage means responsive to said processed data [distance means and said pressure sensor assembly] for storing a distance traveled by said vehicle between said indications of load and dump [sites] conditions and for storing a total weight of a load hauled by said vehicle between said indications [sites]; and

means responsive to [the] said storage means for multiplying [a] said distance traveled by [a] said total weight hauled in order to provide a tons-miles record as part of said storage means.

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24 21. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 20 including[,] means for dividing [transmitting to said remote control center] said tons-miles record resulting from said multiplying means where] said tons-miles record [is divided] by a time interval between successive indications of said load and dump [indications] conditions, thereby providing an indication [a measure] of [the] wear experienced by [the tires of] said vehicle.

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6 22. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus according to claim
~~105~~ including:

memory means operatively coupled to said first processor means;

means coupled to said first processor means for entering an identifier of said vehicle operator and for associating a portion of said memory means with said identifier;

said first processor means responsive to said pressure data for 1) providing said processed data which is indicative of vehicle performance and 2) routing said [vehicle performance] processed data indicative of vehicle performance to locations within said portion of said memory means associated with said identifier;

detecting means responsive to said entering means for detecting changes in said identifier; and

display means responsive to said detecting means for displaying said processed data indicative of vehicle performance [data] in said portion of memory means when a change of said identifier has occurred.

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23. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus according to claim ~~11~~ including:

said second processor means including memory means for storing a predetermined maximum load capacity for [each of] said dump body [bodies]; and

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said first processor means including means for determining a weight of said dump body from [the] said pressure data of said pressure sensor assembly and incorporating said weight as part of said processed data [indicative of the weight of the load, each of said first processor means transmitting data to said second processor means which is indicative of the total weight of the dump body];

said second processor means responsive to said processed data for 1) comparing [the] said weight with [the] said predetermined maximum load capacity, and 2) generating an output signal identifying [the] said vehicle if [the] said weight is greater than [the] said predetermined maximum load capacity.

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²⁰ 24. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim [105] ²⁰ 25 including means responsive to said first processor means for displaying [the] said weight of said dump body in response to said first processor means.

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²⁰ 25. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim ²³ including means in said second processor means for accumulating [the] a total number of times [an] said output signal [is generated] indicating an overload of the vehicle is generated.

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6 26. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim ¹⁰⁵ where said vehicle includes front and back axles and said apparatus includes [including] means for measuring [the] loads carried by said front and rear axles [load] of said vehicle wherein said dump body is pivotally mounted to said frame so as to pivot between raised and lowered positions, said means comprising:

(5) means for measuring a force of said dump body on said frame and providing data indicative of said force;

said first processor means responsive to [the] said data from said means (5) and said pressure sensor assembly for determining [the] a distribution of [the] said weight of said dump body over [the] said front and rear axles of said vehicle; and

display means responsive to said first processor means for displaying [the] portions of [the] said weight of said dump body carried by said front and rear axles.

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27 28. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 26 wherein hydraulic cylinders connected between said frame and dump body move said dump body between said raised and lowered positions, said means (5) sensing [the] pressures [in the] of hydraulic fluids [of] in said hydraulic cylinders.

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27 28. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 26 wherein said first processor means includes means for [finding the relative location of the] locating a center of gravity of [a loaded] said dump body [between said front and rear axles].

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27 29. (Twice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 26 wherein said first processor means includes memory means storing predetermined tare weights for said front and rear axles and said first processor means including summing means for adding [the] said portion of said weight on each of said front and rear axles to the tare weight[s] of each of said front and rear axles in order to find a gross weight for each of said front and rear axles.

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6 30. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 105, including means for pivoting [wherein] said dump body [is pivotal] between raised and lowered positions on said dump body, [and where]

 said pressure sensor assembly [mounted on said frame includes] including a plurality of sensor elements and [said sensor assembly provides] providing an interface between said

frame and dump body when said dump body is in a lowered position, [such that]

said plurality of sensor elements [taken as a whole] provides an indication of the total weight of said dump body and [when taken in groups comprising less than the whole and thereby provide] an indication of fore-and-aft weight distribution as well as side-to-side weight distribution of the load carried by the dump body; and

(F)
said first processor means having means responsive to said plurality [groups] of sensor elements of said pressure sensor assembly for detecting an imbalance of [the] said weight carried by said dump body and signaling [the] said vehicle operator in response thereto.

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6 31. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim ~~105~~ wherein said body is pivotally mounted to said [truck] frame for movement between lowered and raised positions and said apparatus includes a distance sensor for providing data [signals] to said first processor means indicative of truck movement, said first processor means including means responsive to said distance sensor and to said pressure sensor assembly for providing an output signal when said vehicle moves without [the] said dump body in [its fully] said lowered position.

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6 32. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim ~~105~~ wherein said dump body is pivotable between raised and lowered positions and wherein said first processor means includes 1) memory means for storing [the] a tare weight of said dump body, 2) means responsive to the lowering of said dump body onto said pressure sensor assembly [after the load carried by said dump body has been dumped] for comparing [the] said total weight of said dump body with said [the] tare weight in said memory means, and 3) means for indicating [the] said

dump body is not fully empty when [the] said total weight of [the] said dump body is greater than [the] said tare weight of [the] said dump body plus a predetermined constant.

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33. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus for processing data derived from a weight of a load carried by a body of a truck, said apparatus comprising:

a truck frame including a hinge assembly for pivotally supporting said truck body between raised and lowered positions;

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a pressure sensor assembly mounted to said frame for supporting an entire weight of said body in its lowered position and providing pressure data representative of said entire weight of said truck body;

[a distance sensor for providing distance data to said processor means indicative of truck movement;]

a processor means for receiving said pressure data and detecting a change in said entire weight of said truck body and formulating data indicative of truck condition in response to said pressure data and its change; [and]

a distance sensor for providing distance data to said processor means indicative of truck movement; and

said processor means including first means responsive to said pressure data for detecting said truck body raised off said pressure sensor assembly and second means responsive to said first means and said distance data for providing an output signal when said truck moves with said body raised off said pressure sensor assembly.

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35. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus for determining a remaining weight capacity of a body carried on a truck frame which is loaded with a material by a bucket of a loader and for

indicating when a weight of said material in a full average bucket is more than [a] said remaining weight capacity of said body, said apparatus comprising in combination:

a truck frame including a hinge assembly;

a truck body pivotally mounted to said truck frame at said hinge assembly, said truck body being pivotally movable on said frame between lowered and raised positions;

a pressure sensor assembly mounted to said frame for supporting a weight of said body in its lowered position and providing pressure data representative of a weight of said truck body;

a processor means for receiving said pressure data and determining said weight of said truck body, said processor means including;

(1) memory means for storing data indicative of a predetermined maximum weight capacity for said truck body, (2) detection means responsive to incremental increases in said weight of said truck body for approximating a [determining the approximate] weight of said material added by said bucket, (3) comparison means responsive to said weight, said predetermined maximum weight capacity and said [approximate] weight of said material added by said bucket for determining said remaining weight capacity of said truck body, and (4) display means responsive to said comparison means for [displaying] indicating said remaining weight capacity of said truck body.

37 38 36. (Twice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
~~35~~ wherein said detection means includes;

first means for detecting an increase in said [the total] weight of said truck body; and

second means for storing said increase.

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37 37. (Twice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
35 wherein said processor means includes means for isolating
pressure data representing pressure spikes and means for
recording [the] an occurrence of a pressure spike, and means
responsive to [the] said recording means for delivering data to
said display means indicative [of the condition] of a road
condition [over which said vehicle travels].

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37 38. (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
35 wherein said display means includes a display of [the] a
remaining weight capacity of said truck body as a percentage of
said [the approximate] weight of said material carried by said
bucket.

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40 39. (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
38 wherein said display means comprises a series of light indi-
cators representative of [the approximate] a volume capacity of
[a] said bucket, said light indicators being relatively
positioned such that each light represents a fractional portion
of [the] said volume capacity of [the] said bucket.

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37 41. (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
35 wherein said pressure sensor assembly includes a support
means mounted on said truck frame, said support means directly
supporting said truck body on said truck frame when said truck
body is in a lowered position, said support means supporting
[the] said truck body in its lowered position in such a manner
as to support [the] an entire amount of said weight of [the
load] said body along [the] an interface between said truck
frame and body with none of [the] said weight of [the load]
said body transferred to [the] said truck frame via said hinge
assembly.

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37 42. (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
35 wherein said hinge assembly has body and frame portions and
also has means for decoupling said body and frame portions when
said truck body is moved to [its] said lowered position such
that [the] an entire amount of said weight of said truck body
is communicated to said truck frame through said pressure
sensor assembly.

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37 43. (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim
35 wherein said pressure sensor assembly comprises at least one
length of resilient tubing positioned on a beam of said truck
frame wherein said resilient tubing provides an interface
between said truck body and said truck frame for communicating
[the] an entire amount of said weight of said body to said
frame when said body is in [its] said lowered position.

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52 53. (Once Amended) A method as set forth in claim 52
wherein said force derived from said weight [the pressure] of
said truck body on said truck frame is calculated with [the]
said truck body fully lowered onto [the] said truck frame.

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52 54. (Once Amended) A method as set forth in claim 52
wherein [the] said force derived from said weight of said truck
body on said truck frame is provided by a pressure sensor
interfaced between the truck body and frame to communicate a
predetermined portion of [the] said weight of said truck body
to said truck frame.

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55. (Thrice Amended) A system for measuring [the] a
degree of tire use by a vehicle which hauls material in a dump
body pivotally mounted to a frame of said vehicle, said
apparatus comprising;

distance means for measuring a distance traveled by said vehicle and providing distance data;

an on-board weighing device responsive to a weight of a load of said material hauled by said vehicle for providing 1) weight data and 2) data indicative of a beginning and [a] an ending of a haul cycle;

storage means responsive to said distance means and said on-board weighing device for accumulating said distance and weight data; and

[stationary] processor means responsive to [for receiving] said weight and distance data[, said stationary processor means including 1) means] for 1) time marking at least a portion of said distance and weight data so as to identify an elapsed time of said haul cycle, 2) [means for] determining a total distance and a weight of said material for said haul cycle, 3) [means for] multiplying said total distance and said weight of said material for said haul cycle to provide a sum, 4) [means for] dividing said sum by said elapsed time, and 5) [means for] displaying a value resulting from said multiplying means.

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56. An apparatus as set forth in claim 55 wherein said on-board weighing device includes a pressure sensor assembly mounted on said frame of said vehicle which fully supports [the] said weight of said load when said body is pivoted into a [in its fully] lowered position.

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57. An apparatus as set forth in claim 56 wherein said body is pivotally mounted to said frame by way of a hinge assembly such that said body is fully supported by said pressure sensor assembly when said truck body is in said [a fully] lowered position.

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58. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus for use in connection with an off-road, heavy-duty truck wherein said apparatus records vital statistics of said truck in connection with an identifier entered into said apparatus by a truck operator, said apparatus comprising:

a processor means including memory means;

means coupled to said processor means for entering said identifier and associating a first portion of said memory means with said identifier;

measuring means for providing signals indicative of a hauling status of said truck to said processor means;

~~said processor means responsive to said measuring means and said entering and associating means for 1) receiving said signals, 2) providing data indicative of truck performance in response to said signals and 3) routing said [manipulated] data to locations within said first portion of said memory means;~~

~~detecting means responsive to a change of said identifier to cause said entering and associating means to associate a second portion of said memory means with a new identifier resulting from said change of said identifier [means for detecting changes in said identifier]; and~~

~~said processor means responding to said associating of said second portion of said memory means with said new identifier by routing said data to locations within said second portion of said memory means [means responsive to said detecting means for transferring from said memory means the data in said portion of memory when a change of said identifier has occurred].~~

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60 59. (Once Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 58 wherein said truck has a body pivotably mounted on a truck frame, said measuring means including:

a pressure sensor assembly supporting [the] an entire weight of said body on said truck frame when said body is in a fully lowered position and said pressure sensor assembly providing pressure data representative of [the] said weight of said truck body; and

said memory means including data indicative of a predetermined maximum weight for said truck body.

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60. (Thrice Amended) A system for identifying an overload condition in an off-road, heavy-duty truck having a body mounted to a truck frame by a hinge assembly for movement between lowered and raised positions, said apparatus comprising, in combination:

(a) a sensor assembly mounted on said truck frame and supporting a predetermined portion of a weight of said truck body on said truck frame when said truck body is in said lowered position, said sensor assembly responding to said weight of said body to provide a signal indicative of said weight of said body;

a means for transferring said signal to a remote, off-board processor means;

said remote off-board processor means responsive to said signal and including memory means for storing a predetermined maximum weight capacity for said truck body; and

said remote off-board processor means responsive to said signal from said sensor assembly indicative of said weight for comparing said [a] weight [indicated by said signal] with said predetermined maximum weight capacity, and for generating an output signal if said weight indicated by said signal is greater than said predetermined maximum weight capacity.

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62. (Thrice Amended) A system as set forth in claim 60 including means in said remote off-board processor means for accumulating a total number of times said output signal is generated.

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69. An apparatus for measuring and manipulating various hauling and loading parameters for an off-road, heavy duty truck having a body, a frame and front and rear axles, said apparatus comprising in combination:

hinge assemblies pivotally joining said truck frame and body;

a sensor assembly mounted on said truck frame and including a plurality of sensor elements, said sensor assembly supporting a predetermined portion of [the] a weight of said truck body when said truck body is in a [fully] lowered position on said truck frame;

said sensor assembly providing an interface between said truck frame and body when said body is in [a] said lowered position such that said plurality of sensor elements [taken as a whole] provides an indication of [the total] said weight of said truck body and [when taken in groups comprising less than the whole provides] an indication of fore-and-aft and [weight distribution as well as] side-to-side [weight] distribution of said weight of [the load carried by the] said truck body; and

processor means responsive to said sensor assembly for detecting an imbalance of [the] said weight carried by said truck body and signalling [the] a truck operator in response thereto.

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75. (Thrice Amended) In a system for controlling [the] a routing of a fleet of vehicles composed of distinct groups to a plurality of possible locations, a method for monitoring and commanding vehicle movement comprising the steps of:

sensing a weight and a change in said weight of a load carried by each vehicle and formulating data representative of said weight and said change in weight;

transferring said data to a central location;

cataloging [said data] at said central location said data from each vehicle;

selecting one of said distinct groups of vehicles;

combining said data from said one of said distinct groups of vehicles to provide collective data indicative of group performance; and

analyzing said cataloged and collective data to provide commands for transfer to selected vehicles in said fleet of vehicles.

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76. (Thrice Amended) In a system for controlling a routing of a fleet of load-carrying vehicles composed of distinct groups to a plurality of possible locations, an apparatus for monitoring and commanding vehicle movement comprising, in combination:

first means on-board each of said vehicles in said fleet of vehicles for sensing a change in a load carried by said vehicle and forming data representative of said change;

second means on-board each of said vehicles for transmitting said data;

a central computer for receiving said data from each of said vehicles in said fleet of vehicles and 1) cataloging said data to provide averages for [said] each of said vehicles, 2) [formulating from said averages a data base for each of said distinct groups, 3)] analyzing said averages from [said] each of said vehicles [and said data base] and [4)] 3) forming control data in response to said analysis that includes [I.D.] identification data identifying at least one vehicle in said fleet of vehicles; and

transmitting means coupled to said central computer for transmitting said control data to a vehicle identified by said [I.D.] identification data.

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~~77.~~ (Once Amended) In a system as set forth in claim ⁷²~~76~~ including repeater transmitters strategically located along [the] routes of said fleet of vehicles and each of said repeater transmitters receiving said data from vehicles in its vicinity and retransmitting said data to said central computer such that [the re-transmitted] said retransmitted data identifies said each repeater transmitter, thereby providing an [the] approximate location of each vehicle in said fleet of vehicles.

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~~78.~~ (Once Amended) In a system as set forth in claim ⁷²~~76~~ wherein said control data includes data designating [load and dump] sites for loading and dumping loads carried by said fleet of load-carrying vehicles and each [of said] vehicle[s] in said fleet includes a display means responsive to said control data for displaying [the load or dump] said designated sites to [the] a vehicle operator.

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~~72~~ ~~78.~~ (Thrice Amended) In a system as set forth in claim ⁷²~~76~~ wherein each vehicle in said fleet of vehicles is loaded with material by a loader and said data from said first on-board means provides an indication of the operation of said loader;

said central computer including means responsive to said data for providing a quantitative indication of [the] an efficiency of said loader.

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72 80. (Thrice Amended) In a system as set forth in claim
~~76~~ wherein each vehicle in said fleet of vehicles includes a pivotal body mounted on a frame for movement between raised and lowered positions and said first on-board means includes a pressure sensor assembly mounted to said frame for supporting [an entire] a weight of said body in said lowered position.

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72 81. (Thrice Amended) In a system as set forth in claim
~~76~~ wherein said first on-board means includes means for detecting an increase in said load carried by said vehicle.

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83. (Thrice Amended) In a system for controlling a [the] routing of a fleet of trucks composed of distinct groups to a plurality of possible locations and including a central computer for receiving data from said trucks and issuing commands to said trucks, said trucks having a dump body pivotally mounted to a frame, an apparatus on-board each of said trucks comprising, in combination:

a pressure sensor assembly mounted to each truck in said fleet of trucks for providing pressure data indicative of a weight of said dump body;

a processor means on-board each of said trucks for receiving said pressure data and detecting a change in a weight of said body, and providing output data indicative of a truck operating condition; and

transmitter means on-board each of said trucks for receiving said output data from said processor means and transmitting said output data to said central computer for further processing.

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86. (Once Amended) In the system set forth in claim 85,
said processor means including means responsive to said control

data to provide display data to an on-board display means for use by [the] a truck operator.

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~~87.~~ (Twice Amended) An apparatus for measuring [the] a weight of [the] a load carried by [the] a body of a truck, said apparatus comprising, in combination:

a truck body and a truck frame;

means for coupling said body to said frame to inhibit side-to-side or fore-to-aft movement of said body with respect to said frame but allowing [liited] limited non-rotating vertical movement; and

a pressure sensor assembly supporting a predetermined portion of [the] a weight of said body along an interface between said body and frame such that [the] a weight of said body is transferred to said frame uniformly along said interface.

⁴⁴ ⁴⁵ ~~88~~ (Thrice Amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim ~~88~~ wherein said processor means includes means for detecting a change in [the] said weight of said truck body and formulating data indicative of said truck condition in response to said pressure data.

⁴⁶ ~~89~~ (Thrice Amended) A system for automatically measuring a weight of a vehicle body and automatically transferring a measurement of said weight to a remote stationary site, said system comprising, in combination:

a vehicle frame for supporting said body;

a pressure sensor assembly mounted on said vehicle frame and positioned along an interface between said vehicle body and frame for supporting a predetermined portion of said

weight of said vehicle body such that said assembly distributes said predetermined portion of said weight of said vehicle body in a substantially uniform manner along said interface, said assembly providing at least one output signal indicative of [the] a pressure at said interface between said body and frame;

means remote from said vehicle for receiving said at least one output signal and formulating an indication of said weight of said body; and

coupling means joining said pressure sensor assembly and said remote means for automatically transferring said at least one output signal from said assembly to said remote site.

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96. (Twice Amended) A system according to claim ⁹⁵
wherein said at least one output signal from said pressure sensor assembly is fluid under pressure and said remote means is a pressure responsive device for providing a visual indication indicative of [the] said weight of said body and said coupling means is a conduit for communicating [the] said fluid under pressure from said assembly to said pressure responsive device remote from [the] said vehicle.

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97. (Once Amended) A system according to claim ⁹⁵
wherein said at least one output signal from said pressure sensor assembly is an electrical signal and said remote means is a circuit [response] responsive to said electrical signal when received via said coupling means.

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98. (Thrice Amended) In a system utilizing pressurized tubing, an apparatus for terminating an end of said tubing and for insuring the termination is leak-proof under high pressures, said apparatus comprising, in combination:

an end clamp located at said end of said tubing and comprising first, second and third portions;

said third portion of said clamp located inside said tubing while said first and second portions fit over [the] an outside surface of said tubing and oppose one another so as to sandwich said tubing and third portion between said first and second portions;

means for joining said first, second and third portions of said clamp with said tubing so as to totally seal the end of said tubing; and

a collar surrounding said tubing at an area proximate said end of said tubing but rearward of said end clamp, said collar having a central bore for receiving said tubing and restraining said tubing from changing its cross-sectional shape in [the] an area of [the tube] said tubing under and adjacent to said collar.

a1

~~100.~~ (Thrice Amended) In a system for monitoring hauling parameters of a vehicle with a dump body that pivots between raised and lowered pivotal positions, an on-board apparatus comprising, in combination:

a sensor mounted on said body and responsive to the pivoting of said body for providing an output signal indicative of said raised or lowered positions of said body, said sensor being totally encapsulated in a housing in order to prevent ambient conditions from reducing the responsiveness of said sensor;

a processor for receiving said output signal from said sensor and responding to said output signals in a predetermined manner; and

means communicating said output signal from said sensor to said processor wherein said means includes an output port in said housing which maintains said sensor in isolation from an ambient environment.

q3

102. (Thrice Amended) In a system for controlling [the] a routing of each vehicle in a fleet of material-hauling vehicles to one of a plurality of possible load or dump locations, an apparatus for monitoring and commanding vehicle movement comprising, in combination:

means on-board each of said vehicles for providing an indication of a [sensing the] beginning of a loading of material into said vehicle and a dumping of said material from said vehicle and, in response to said indication [sensing], forming data indicative of said loading or dumping;

first transceiver means on-board each of said vehicles for transmitting said data;

a central computer having a second transceiver means for receiving said [transmitted] data from each of said vehicles and having a processor and a memory for formulating from said data a data base from which control data is derived, said central computer including means for transmitting said control data to said vehicles, said control data including data identifying a particular vehicle and a particular one of said plurality of possible load or dump locations [destinations]; and

said first transceiver means receiving said control data and said on-board sensing means responding to said control data to visually indicate [to] said particular one of said plurality of possible load or dump destinations on an on-board display means.

q4

106. (Once Amended) An apparatus on-board a vehicle, being one of a plurality of similar vehicles, for acquiring data indicative of vehicle operation and for accumulating said data, said apparatus comprising [being characterized by]:

first means mounted to said vehicle for providing data indicative of [the] a loading of material into a dump body of said vehicle and [the] a dumping of said material by said dump body;

second means mounted to said vehicle for providing data indicative of [the] a movement of said vehicle;

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a first processor means on-board said vehicle for acquiring said data from said first and second means and [organizing said data from said first and second means and] organizing said data to provide information regarding [the] performance of said vehicle; and

a storage means for receiving said data from said first processor means and storing said data as organized by said first processor means.

REMARKS

Applicant's attorney John Conklin would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of an interview on June 2, 1988. At the interview, Mr. Conklin presented suggested amendments to virtually all of the pending claims with the intent to overcome rejections and objections to the claims based on 35 U.S.C. §112. In making the suggested changes to the claims, applicant considered each and every one of the specific objections listed in the final Office Action. It is applicant's understanding from the interview of June 2, 1988, that the claims as presented at the interview overcome the §112 rejection and objections and, therefore, place the claim set in condition for allowance.

✓
In accordance with the Examiner's request, attached as Exhibit A is a complete set of the claims presently pending in this patent application. Because it is applicant's understanding that the suggested amendments to the claims are acceptable, the complete claim set incorporates the changes formally presented by this amendment.